

B<sup>2</sup> 15. (Amended) The process according to Claim 10, wherein the polyolefin foam comprises at least 20% by weight of a polyethylene or of an essentially linear ethylene copolymer having a density of 0.80 to 0.96 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

Please add the following claims:

B<sup>3</sup> 18. (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein one face of an intermediate polyolefin sheet is crosslinked.

19. (New) The process according to claim 10, wherein both faces of an intermediate polyolefin sheet are crosslinked.

#### BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENTS

The claims have been limited to embodiment b).

Claim 15 has been amended to correct the typographical error noted by the Examiner.

Claims 18 and 19 have been added to separately define the embodiments of claim 10.

#### REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested.

Claims 10, 13 and 15-19 are in the case.

Claim 17 stands withdrawn from consideration as being directed to the non-elected invention. Upon allowance of the elected claims, rejoinder of this claim is again requested, in accordance with MPEP § 821.04.

Claims 10, 12, 13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hitchcock.

Claims 10, 11, 13, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hosoda et al.